



WARREN'S \$10m PARTY

...with a little help from Dustin

IT was billed as one of the biggest parties of all time — the world premiere of Warren Beatty's *Dick Tracy* film — but two of its biggest stars stayed home.

Fans hoping for a glimpse of Beatty and Madonna together were disappointed to learn the blonde singer, who stars as *Breathless* Mahoney, had to cancel her trip to Disney World in Orlando, Florida, for the premiere.

And Al Pacino, who almost steals the movie as *Bad Boy* Caprice, was another notable absentee.

About 3000 guests were flown in for the premiere, rumored to have cost Disney more than \$10 million.

"Madonna has a viral infection and doctors have ordered her not to talk for 48 hours, so I'm sure she'll have plenty to say then," Beatty told TV WEEK the morning after the star-studded premiere.

The festivities included a parade featuring Warren Beatty, Dustin Hoffman (who has an hilarious cameo role in the movie) and Glenn Headly, who plays Tracy's girlfriend, Tess Trueheart.

For Beatty, who has made only two films — *Reds* and *Ishtar* — in the past decade, *Dick Tracy*, opening in Australia this week, is a triumphant return as actor, director and producer.

It is the result of five years of planning which began with some frames in a *Dick Tracy* comic strip.

"I saw one drawing where Tracy says, 'Take that, you cockroaches!' and another one where Tess Trueheart is standing with her hands on her hips saying, 'Dick Tracy, are you asking me to marry you?'" Beatty recalled.

● Madonna plays *Breathless* Mahoney and Warren Beatty has the title role in the latest super-hit movie, *Dick Tracy*.

"That really touched me and I thought I could get to themes about love and duty in a simple way. But I also had to be careful to play it straight and not make fun of it and be camp."

There's also Beatty's personal life, much talked about since he rose to fame in the 1961 film *Splendor In The Grass*, paralleling *Dick Tracy*'s fear of ending his bachelor days.

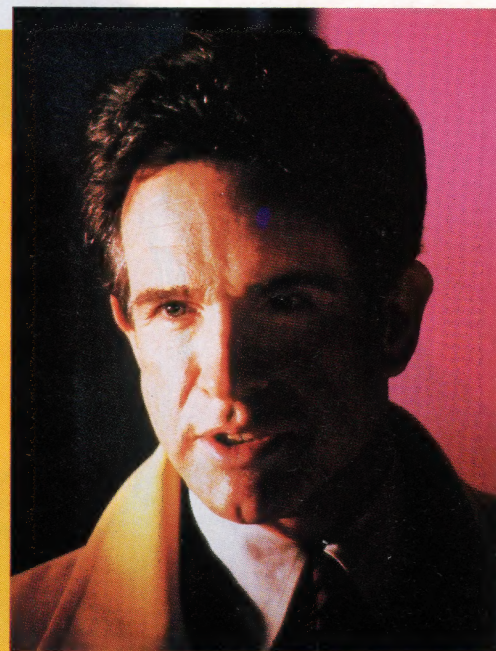
"That comparison was not lost on me," Beatty, 53, said with a smile, "but Tracy is not me — he's just a character and, after all, he did go with Tess Trueheart for 20 years without asking her to marry him!"

As he deflected questions on his romance with Madonna, his close friend Dustin Hoffman approached TV WEEK and offered to help Beatty.

"I've told Warren I have the way to handle questions on his personal life," Hoffman said, "so go ahead and pretend I'm Warren and ask me specific questions about Warren... and be rough with me!"

Much to Beatty's embarrassment, Hoffman emphatically answered: "Yes!" to numerous leading questions about Beatty and Madonna's relationship, including plans for marriage and children.

So, TV WEEK asked Hoffman — with Beatty looking on — how many children are Beatty and Madonna



going to have? "Yes!" Hoffman answered, laughing.

Surprisingly, the man billed as the world's most eligible bachelor blushed profusely. "I know it's pathetic that I blush," Beatty said, trying to regain his composure, "but what can I say?"

With *Dick Tracy* being backed by Walt Disney Studio's Touchstone Pictures division, Beatty finds the marketing of his film — which has included more hype and merchandising than *Batman* — amusing.



"I got some of the best reviews I've ever had, but all the folks at Disney are saying is, 'Yeah, yeah, but what about the T-shirts?'" he said with a laugh.

Although Beatty has shunned interviews for more than 12 years, he agreed to talk to the press at the Disney World premiere to try to control what is written and said about him in the media.

"I realise that if I don't show up

**I know it's pathetic
that I blush, but
what can I say? 9**

and say something, the press in general will simply invent what I said. At least this way, I have a shot at it," he explained.

Beatty revealed a philosophical side as he talked about politics, libel laws and inaccuracy in the press, and clearly enjoyed answering questions about his co-star Madonna on a professional level, deflecting the romance angle.

"I think we should all just relax and enjoy Madonna because she is a big asset to the entertainment

industry," he said. "She is a person of unlimited energy, generosity of spirit, talent as an actress, singer, dancer, choreographer and collaborator, and she is always on time and enthusiastic."

"What else can I say?" He added, grinning: "Haven't I made it clear how I feel about her?" Although Al Pacino and Madonna failed to show up at the premiere, fans were treated to the sight of Beatty, Hoffman and Headly planting their foot and handprints in the

industry," he said. "She is a person of unlimited energy, generosity of spirit, talent as an actress, singer, dancer, choreographer and collaborator, and she is always on time and enthusiastic."

"What else can I say?" He added, grinning: "Haven't I made it clear how I feel about her?"

Although Al Pacino and Madonna failed to show up at the premiere, fans were treated to the sight of Beatty, Hoffman and Headly planting their foot and handprints in the



cement blocks on the theme park's Grauman's Chinese Theatre reconstruction.

"I don't really believe in movie publicity," Beatty said.

"But I think I'm in the minority. I've finally come to realise this is the way to distribute movies now."

*From Jenny Cooney
in Orlando, Florida*